

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-6 stand rejected.

Applicants thank the Examiner for providing information about recommended section headings. However, applicants respectfully decline to add the headings. Section headings are not statutorily required for filing a non-provisional patent application under 35 USC 111(a), but per 37 CFR 1.51(d) are only guidelines that are suggested for applicant's use. (See Miscellaneous Changes in Patent Practice, Response to comments 17 and 18 (Official Gazette, August 13, 1996) [Docket No: 950620162-6014-02] RIN 0651-AA75 ("Section 1.77 is permissive rather than mandatory. ... [T]he Office will not require any application to comply with the format set forth in 1.77").

Claim Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Wistendahl et al. (USP 5,798,845) (hereinafter "Wistendahl"). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites: "adding interactivity to the recording."

In contrast to applicants' claimed feature, Wistendahl teaches that the N data file is maintained separately from the Frame Data (Abstract). In fact, Wistendahl teaches keeping the recording intact. There is no adding interactivity to the recording described in the reference.

In Wistendahl, in order to perform the functions associated with "hot spots," the subscriber terminal must run an IDM (interactive digital media) program in conjunction with the display of the movie (col. 3, lines 24-38). "The IDM program has established linkages connecting the objects mapped by the N data to other functions to be performed in conjunction with display of the media content" (Abstract).

Wistendahl does not describe adding interactivity to the recording, but creates an N data file which works with the IDM program. The N data file contains the coordinates and frame addresses of the "hot spots" of the recording and stores them as data in the

N data file. The N data file is physically or logically separate from the media content (col. 4, line 60 to col. 5, line 8).

Furthermore, there is no teaching of “linking the recording and an interactive module based on the interactivity added to the recording” as claimed in applicants’ claim 1.

In Wistendahl the N data file is linked with the IDM. There is no linking of the recording in Wistendahl because the N data file is a separate module from the recording and nowhere does Wistendahl teach linking the recording to either the N data file or the IDM. As pointed out above, the Abstract in Wistendahl describes: “The IDM program has established linkages connecting the objects mapped by the N data to other functions to be performed in conjunction with display of the media content.”

Thus, Wistendahl fails to teach or even suggest each and every claimed feature recited in applicants’ claim 1, therefore, a prima facie case of anticipation has not been presented and the rejection should be withdrawn. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-3

Claims 2-3 depend upon allowable claim 1 and are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency therefrom and because each claim recites further distinguishing features.

Claim 4

Claim 4 recites “means for adding interactivity to the recording; and means for linking the recording and the interactive module based on the interactivity added to the recording.”

The analysis of independent claim 4 is substantially analogous to the analysis of claim 1, as presented hereinabove. To avoid repetition, claim 4 will not be discussed in detail with the understanding that it is patentable at least for the same reasons as claim 1. Applicant, therefore, respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 4 should be withdrawn.

Claims 5-6

Claims 5-6 depend upon allowable claim 4 and are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency therefrom and because each claim recites further distinguishing features.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections of record and allowance of this application are solicited. Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues. In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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